

Message Text

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FOR DCM DANIELS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, SA
SUBJ: CORPORAL PUNISHMENT OF NON-MUSLIMS - CASES OF
JOHN W. WILSON AND FRANK E. CLIFFORD

REF: (A) JIDDA 5351, (B) JIDDA 5329, (C) DHAHRAN 0909,

1. CONSOFFS THIS MORNING MET WITH MR. FRANK E. CLIFFORD REGARDING HIS CASE AND EMBASSY'S EFFORTS ON HIS BEHALF. CLIFFORD WAS ACCOMPANIED BY SENIOR GOVERNMENT RELATIONS REPRESENTATIVE OF HIS EMPLOYER, TRADCO VULCAN INC. BOTH MR. CLIFFORD AND TRADCO REPRESENTATIVE ADMITTED TO CONSOFF THAT MR. CLIFFORD'S OPPOSITION TO HIS DEPORTATION WAS NOT REPEAT NOT CONVEYED TO CONGEN PRIOR TO TELCON WITH MR. CLIFFORD ON 19 JULY. TRADCO REPRESENTATIVE STATED THAT HE HAD MERELY COMMUNICATED TO CONSOFFS MR. CLIFFORD'S UNQUALIFIED DESIRE TO DEPART THE KINGDOM WITH A MINIMUM DELAY. MR. CLIFFORD STATED THAT HE HAD PERMITTED COMPANY TO REPRESENT HIM IN HIS CASE UP TO HIS FIRST DIRECT CONTACTS WITH CONGEN LATE LAST WEEK. CONSOFFS EXPLAINED TO MR. CLIFFORD THE DIFFICULT POSITION IN WHICH HE
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WAS NOW PLACING EMBASSY BECAUSE OF FACT THAT DEPORTATION HAD ALREADY BEEN SUBMITTED TO SAG AS ALTERNATIVE TO HIS CORPORAL PUNISHMENT. MR. CLIFFORD REITERATED HIS OPPOSITION TO USG QUOTE ARRANGING UNQUOTE HIS DEPORTATION IN LIEU OF LASHES, BUT ALSO STATED HIS STRONG OPPOSITION TO CONGEN OR EMBASSY SIMPLY DROPPING CURRENT REPRESENTATIONS ON HIS BEHALF. MR. CLIFFORD INSISTED THAT SOME ALTERNATIVE

TO HIS DEPORTATION BE FOUND IF POSSIBLE, ALTHOUGH HE ALSO CONCEDED THAT THERE WAS STRONG POSSIBILITY OF HIS EVENTUAL DEPORTATION EVEN IF LASHES WERE TO BE ACCEPTED. MR. CLIFFORD ALSO REFUSED TO SIGN ANY STATEMENT REGARDING USG HANDLING OF HIS CASE. MR. CLIFFORD WAS INFORMED THAT DUE TO RECENT INSTRUCTIONS OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, THERE WAS LITTLE POSSIBILITY OF HIS MERELY ACCEPTING THE LASHES ON HIS SENTENCE FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE (REFTEL A).

2. CONGEN LEARNED TODAY THAT NO REPEAT NO ORDER OF DEPORTATION IS ATTACHED TO MR. CLIFFORD'S SENTENCE AT PRESENT. POLICE OFFICIALS EXPLAINED THAT A DECISION TO DEPORT WOULD BE MADE BY EMIR OF EASTERN PROVINCE ONLY AFTER REST OF SENTENCE HAD BEEN EXECUTED. POLICE AUTHORITIES WERE UNABLE TO CATEGORICALLY STATE THAT DEPORTATION WOULD BE FINAL ACTION IN MR. CLIFFORD'S CASE, BUT STATED THAT SUCH ACTION WAS A STRONG POSSIBILITY.

3. BECAUSE OF HIS DISATISFACTION WITH CONGEN EXPLANATION OF USG ACTION IN HIS CASE AT PRESENT, MR. CLIFFORD EXPRESSED STRONG DESIRE TO SPEAK PERSONALLY WITH AMBASSADOR REGARDING HIS CASE. MR. CLIFFORD NOW PLANS TO COME TO JIDDA ON MORNING OF 26 JULY. CONGEN WILL ATTEMPT TO MAKE APPOINTMENT FOR MRUM CLIFFORD WHEN HIS EXACT TRAVEL PLANS ARE KNOWN.

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4. CONGEN WISHES TO NOTE THAT MR. JOHN WILSON CONTINUES TO DESIRE TO DEPART COUNTRY BY ANY POSSIBLE MEANS. MR. WILSON STRONGLY APPROVES OF ANY AND ALL MEASURES TAKEN BY EMBASSY OR CONGEN TO ACHIEVE THIS END. MR. WILSON DOES NOT IN ANY WAY SHARE MR. CLIFFORD'S VIEWS REGARDING THEIR CASES APART FROM HIS IMPATIENCE TO RESOLVE HIS CASE WITH A MINIMUM OF DELAY.
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